



COMPASS

May 31, 2021

Town of Washington Planning Board  
Ms. Mary Alex  
Town of Washington Clerk  
10 Reservoir Drive  
Millbrook, NY 12545

Dear the Planning Board of the Town of Washington and Ms. Alex,

I'm writing in support of the pond project that Chris and Simone Mailman are proposing on the property they recently acquired adjacent to their home at 133 Woodstock Road. The Mailmans have proven their commitment to reclaiming damaged land by previously purchasing 230 acres on the Shunpike, comprised of another former mine. They have turned that parcel into a thriving ecosystem.

Land regeneration is as necessary to the preservation of our property values as it is to preserving ecosystems and the environment. The current gravel field has no ecological benefits. By transforming this site into a pond, to be designed in consultation with Dr. Michael Schummer of Syracuse School of Forestry and Environmental Sciences, there will be no impact on wildlife. Dr. Schummer supports the project as being, in fact, beneficial to the environment. Hudsonia is on record saying that "this is a good site for a constructed pond."

Neighbors and landowners in the region might be delighted to know that according to local real estate professionals, including me, the project will only enhance property values. As you know, I have a nearly 40-year career in this part of the Hudson Valley and understand the way environmental impacts and land values intersect. The people who purchase homes in and move to Dutchess County are interested in vibrant ecosystems, beautiful settings, and a thriving range of native flora and fauna.

The Mailmans have already created a barrier of foliage to deflect sound from the site, promised to limit site work to business hours on weekdays, and plan to enforce certain rules for truck operators (no loud breaks and on-site turnarounds to avoid back-up signals). Any inconvenience of the short-lived pond-creation process will be hugely outweighed by the benefits to the environment, the health of our region, and real estate values.

Sincerely,

Candy Anderson  
Mobile 914-475-7576

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